



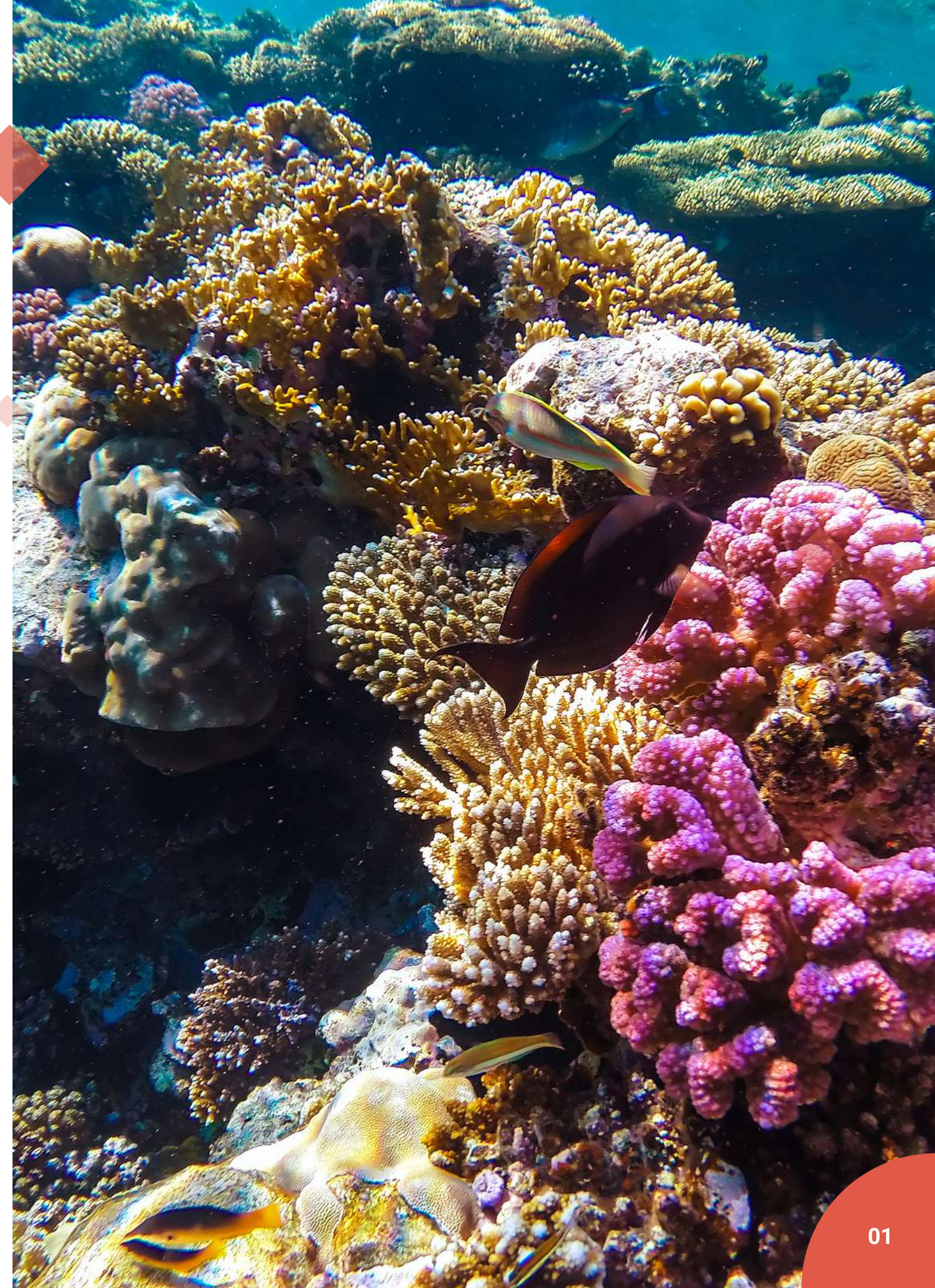
Hurghada Environmental Protection and Conservation Assosiation

WWW.HEPCA.ORG

ABOUT US

HEPCA is an internationally recognized NGO and a non-profit organization registered in the Red Sea Governorate specializing in the field of protection and conservation of the land and marine ecology and the underwater environment of coral reefs, terrestrial ecosystems of the Red Sea and its coastline.

Founded in 1988 by 12 representatives of the diving community in response to serious environmental threats affecting the Red Sea's delicate and pristine eco-system and officially registered in 1995.



OUR MISSION & PHILOSOPHY

01. Mission

HEPCA's mandate is the protection and conservation of the terrestrial and marine ecology of the Red Sea. This includes the underwater bio-network of coral reefs and the sensitive land ecosystems of the Red Sea coastline.

02. Philosophy

At HEPCA's core is a no compromise attitude for the future. Our primary objective has remained essentially unchanged from day one: working towards the protecting and preservation of Egypt's natural resources.





Since its inception, **HEPCA** has grown into a team of scientists, industry experts and environment protection and conservation supporters.

We are actively working towards the protecting and preserving of the natural resources of the Red Sea, as well as promoting conservation and sustainable tourism practices, to preserve the red sea in long run.

HEPCA works closely with a number of Egyptian governmental departments including; The Red Sea Governorate (RSG) the National Conservation Sector and The National Parks of Egypt

OUR MAIN PROJECTS IN THE RED SEA

01. Mooring systems
The largest in the world!
Which significantly reduce
the damage to the reefs by
eliminating the need for
anchoring.

02. Solid Waste Management
The first time an NGO to
become solely responsible
for all aspects of solid waste
management; benefiting both
the environment and national
community

03. Conservation
Science is embraced to
appropriately design,
implement, and monitor all its
interventions for the purpose
of environmental protection
and conservation.

04. Samadai Protected Area
Dolphins Hourse, it's a special
protected area managed by
HEPCA for 19 years now,
which has become a role
model for proactive
environmental management.

05. Community Development
One of HEPCA's cornerstones
has always been community
development in accordance
with our mandate to improve
the quality of life for both
humans and animals.

06. Public Awareness
HEPCA is involved in a large
number of environmental
awareness raising activities
targeted at the local
community, schools, tourism
industry, and service providers.



HISTORY OF HEPCA



Early 1990's, one of the first major environmental threats became wide spread reef destruction due to boat anchoring. When boats attach their anchors to a reef;



In 1992, a meeting between a twelve members representing the diving community proposed a permanent mooring buoy system, resulted in the designing and installing of approximately 100 mooring buoys, which inaugurated **HEPCA's** inception as an Egyptian NGO.



In 2004, **HEPCA** started managing Samadai Reefs protected area; visiting hours were scheduled and number of visitors is limited which resulted in the increase of the number of dolphins in the area. Each dolphin worth 92,000 USD and provides for 16 jobs.



August 2009, a protocol was signed between the Red Sea Governorate and **HEPCA**; this protocol consigned the responsibility of Solid Waste Management in the Marsa Alam to **HEPCA**; giving HEPCA exclusive responsibility over waste collection, recycling, and disposal.



Climate Change



The Red Sea reefs, as one of the last coral reefs to survive, could potentially form a refuge where it becomes one of the few remaining reefs with full ecosystem function, according to a research by the School of Earth Sciences at Ohio State University.



HEPCA is most active in lobbying for legislation to protect our environment. Over the last five years we have been at the forefront of campaigns, which have resulted in the amendment of over 32 laws, articles and decrees.

Our Future Target



01

Preserving and protecting more coral reef areas in the Egyptian Red Sea as the waters of the Red Sea are home to some of the most productive and diverse coral reefs in the world!

02

Expand and maintain the mooring buoy system which significantly reduce the damage to the reefs by eliminating the need for anchoring.

03

One of HEPCA's cornerstones has always been community development in accordance with our mandate to improve the quality of life for both humans and animals.

04

Raise the environmental awareness for our Research Center visitors and educate them on the natural treasures and unique cultural diversity of the Red Sea.

OUR CONTACTS

We would love to hear from you, here is how you can reach us:



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